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REPORTAGE ON EVENTS IN IRAN

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BANI-SADR: COMMISSION'S WORK NOT RELATED TO RELEASE

JN211857 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, stated today that the work of the international commission investigating the deposed shah's crimes is not directly connected to the issue of the release of the U.S. hostages.

In a statement to Radio Canada, Dr Bani-Sadr declined to give information on the release of the hostages and on whether they will be released before or after the publication of the international commission's report. Dr Bani-Sadr stressed that the Iranian Government is determined to bring the deposed shah back for trial in Iran.

French Official on Hostages

LD211352 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] There is a meeting in Geneva this afternoon between the commission of inquiry into the Iranian imperial regime and representatives of the international committee of the Red Cross.

For one of the members of the commission, the French representative and former Barristers' chairman Louis-Edmont Pettiti, it would be premature to link the work currently underway with the release of the hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. But, he added, the inquiry should of course permit a solution to be found in a reasonable time.

Algerian Member's Departure

LD211432 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The more the hours pass, the less chance the international commission of inquiry into the Iranian imperial regime's activities has of leaving Geneva. The Algerian member of the commission left for New York a short while ago, officially for reasons unconnected with the commission's mandate. However, he will not be back in Geneva before Sunday.

SWITZERLAND WILL NOT GRANT SHAH POLITICAL ASYLUM

LD211310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Switzerland will not grant political asylum to Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. According to an Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs report based on a report from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Berne, the Swiss Foreign Ministry has denied the report published in some Swiss newspapers stating that the Government of Switzerland would grant political asylum to Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

A Swiss Foreign Ministry official told the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Berne that relations between Switzerland and Mohammad Reza Pahlavi had cooled in recent years as Swiss citizens had been expelled from Iran.

The report on the Swiss Government's readiness to grant political asylum to Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was published in the pictorial magazine "SWISSEL [name indistinct]," which forges and publishes sensational reports to increase sales.

MTI REPORTS ON HOSTAGES, UN COMMISSION

LD212026 Budapest MTI in English 1704 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Budapest, February 21 (MTI)--MTI's special correspondent reports from Tehran:

Among the most important endeavours of the Iranian diplomacy at present is to handle the affair of the American hostages and the trip to Tehran of the fact-finding commission of the UN, which was expected to arrive on Wednesday but postponed by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, because of "certain unelucidated questions", to a later time, as separately as is possible. According to sources at the Foreign Ministry Iran has given no sort of guarantee--and does not want to give in the future either--relating to whether the future work in Tehran of the five-member commission of the UN would speed up or promote the release of the hostages. According to the Iranian standpoint the task of the fact-finding mission relates to examining the justness of the Tehran grievances concerning the crimes of the United States and the former shah. Thus it is definitely necessary for the success of its work that their members meet with the hostages even if Washington is against this with reference to the diplomatic status of the hostages and that their questioning is incompatible with the regulations of diplomatic immunity. The affair of releasing the hostages is, however, a totally different question, since in their case inquiries of a different kind have to be held because of spying activities.

According to signs the Iranian Islamic Revolution Council also adopted this standpoint following its long session on Wednesday, at which it discussed the report of Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh on the details of his West European tour.

It shows the constancy of the Iranian standpoint that simultaneously with the session of the Revolution Council, Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution still under treatment at a hospital, called on the country in a radio statement to reject the foreign interference experiments and any other kind of foreign pressure, and once again designated the condition for the release of the hostages to be the extradition of the shah.

KUWAITI PAPER QUOTED ON 'TEHRAN WATERGATE'

JN220907 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 22 Feb 80 JN

[From the "Iran in the Arab Press" program]

[Text] Under the headline "What Is Behind the Tehran Watergate," the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' says: An Arab official secretly visited Iran 2 weeks ago. The Arab official, who is very close to his country's president though not occupying an official position now, wrote a report in which he said: During the current month of January, an international commission will be formed to try or, more correctly, question the hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

The paper adds: In the course of the questioning, the hostages will not be directly indicted but through these hostages, the commission will try the entire U.S. regime.

As the report says, the SAVAK poses a threat of something even graver than the Watergate scandal.

The commission will not discuss the documents with the hostages but will be satisfied with asking, for example: Does this document come from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran or not?

What was published about the leaders and officials who used to accept bribes from the shah is only a small part of the names or sums of money. The names to be announced by the court will include prominent names, most of whom are still ruling in their countries, thus leading to grave disturbances in more than one state.

As Iranian officials say, there are documents referring to U.S. President Jimmy Carter, hence the reason why there have been reiterations that Tehran is capable of bringing about Carter's downfall.

The Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' concludes: As the report says, the United States, and President Carter in particular, are aware of these reports, hence the reason why President Carter is in a dilemma as to the step he should take, a dilemma intensified by the Afghanistan events, since the Soviet Union has again proved its capability of making military moves in minutes in order to maintain its interests.

BANI-SADR CRITICIZES 'DESPOTIC DECISONMAKING CENTERS'

LD211414 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1045 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] In order to review the work of the provincial centers for the extension of productive and developmental services aimed at creating employment for the unemployed across the country a 2-day conference of the country's governors general began its work today.

The opening ceremony was attended by Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, Iranian president; Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, superviser of the Interior Ministry; several ministers, and also ministry officials.

At the start of the conference's work, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani alluded in a speech to provincial issues and problems, and while enumerating the plots of the enemies of the revolution called upon the governors general, with full alterness and awareness, to do their duty.

Later, Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, our country's president, discussed the plots of the enemies of the revolution and described the existing problems. The president said: You gentlemen, the governors general, have gone to the provinces to serve the people. You should put them in the picture because the solution to the problems must be found by you who are in the area and who are the people.

Addressing the governors general, governors and rural district officers, he said: You should attend Friday prayers without failure and report the situation to the people. Put the people in the picture once a week and be frank about matters, and in this way, once the people have become informed, many of these despotic decisionmaking centers will be closed.

Stressing the importance of decisiveness in affairs, Mr Bani-Sadr said: The friends of the revolution should be able to bear hardships and not allow enemy methods to be implemented. The central government should also be strong and firm and should not tolerate any imposition, because if we give the enemy a chance, we will fall more quickly.

Referring to the problem of unemployment, Mr Bani-Sadr said: The problem of unemployment is the consequences of a sick economy which was created by the previous regime. When we decide not to continue the economy as it was, we will face certain difficulties.

We cannot continue with the old sick economy because if that sort of activity had been continued, the previous regime would not have fallen. To continue with what went on in the past would bring our country down. We must eliminate the things of the past and replace them with productive activity. We should clarify the problems to the public so that with the people's help we can resolve the problem. Thus we should end the procedures employed by the previous regime. Everyone should do his own job in his own post so that we can rebuild a new country.

The president of our country added: Governors general should not come to Tehran all the time and hold conferences. On the contrary, even ministers should get out of Tehran, travel in the provinces and investigate the problems on the spot.

He then referred to the question of elections and, recalling the elections over the past year, said: Governors general, governors and rural district officers and other officials have no right whatsoever to interfere directly or indirectly in the elections. If such things happen, they will be dealt with in the utmost severity.

He added: No government has come to power in the world with so much reliance upon the people. We staged a revolution and from the outset we went to the people themselves and--God willing--it will be the people themselves in the future, too, who we will go to.

In conclusion, the president of our country, while expressing the hope for the success of the conference of the governors general, said: It has never occurred to us in any way to abandon the Islamic revolution and unity or to surrender to foreign plots and to incidents inspired by these which are aimed at driving us away from Islam. Iran will not achieve freedom and independence except under Islam. Since we want to have a free, independent and prosperous Iran we want an Islamic Iran.

The conference will end its work tomorrow afternoon.

KHOMEYNI TO STAY IN HOSPITAL 'FOR TIME BEING'

NC211349 Paris AFP in English 1339 GMT 21 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 21 (AFP)--Iranian revolutionary leader Ruhollah Khomeyni will remain in Mehdi Reza'i cardiac hospital here for the time being, one of his doctors said today, although physicians earlier said he would leave by tomorrow at the latest.

Health Minister Musa Zargar said there was no medical reason for keeping the ayatollah, 79, in the hospital but that he would stay there until "a suitable lodging has been found". The minister specified that it should be near the hospital, be sunny and have decent surroundings.

Ayatollah Khomeyni was hospitalized on Jan. 23 with heart trouble.

Shari'at-Madari, Montazeri Visit

LD212052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] His Great Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, who has come to Tehran from Qom tonight visited Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, in Mehdi Reza'i heart hospital.

His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri also visited Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, in Mehdi Reza'i heart hospital and talked to the leader of the revolution about various national issues.

AFP on Visits, Clashes

NC211831 Paris AFP in English 1820 GMT 21 Feb 80 NC

[By Nick Phythian]

[Excerpt] Tehran, Feb 21 (AFP)--Ayatollah Kazem Shari'at-Madari, number two in the Iranian Shi'ite Muslim hierarchy, was later today due to visit Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni at the Tehran heart hospital where he has been receiving treatment for the past four weeks.

Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, whose supporters in the northwestern city of Tabriz clashed violently with Ayatollah Khomeyni's supporters at the end of last year and early this year, had left the holy city of Qom south of here for the visit, a reliable source at the hospital said.

The visit comes prior to the start of campaigning for the March 14 National Assembly elections, for which the deadline for nominations passed today.

Meanwhile, some 20 people were taken to hospital with stab wounds and other injuries after clashes between right-wing Muslim fundamentalists and supporters of the extreme left Mojahedin-e Khalq group holding a rally at Tehran University.

A crowd of 200,000 had gathered at the university to hear Massoud Rajavi, one of the leaders of the mojahedin, speak about the movement's general approach to the forthcoming elections.

Elsewhere the Iranian Government continued preparations were for the arrival of a United Nations-sponsored international commission to investigate Iranian grievances against the shah.

The commission, set up by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim as part of an attempt to break the deadlock over the American Embassy hostages here, is expected to arrive here this weekend.

The Interior Ministry, according to Deputy Minister Mostafa Mirsalim, today banned all further demonstrations on Tehran University campus.

Mr Mirsalim, in an interview with the newspaper ETTELA'AT, said that demonstrations disrupted the cultural activities of the university.

Today's mojahedin rally, planned before the ban, however, had special permission from the ministry.

Revolution Guards, on hand to restore order, fired over the heads of the crowd when a group of about 600 right-wingers started attacking the mojahedin supporters.

QOTBZADEH TO VISIT ARAB COUNTRIES, INCLUDING LEBANON

JN212009 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Quoting the Foreign Ministry spokesman, PARS says that Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh intends to visit a number of Arab countries, including Lebanon.

Qotbzadeh will hold talks with the leaders of these countries with the aim of consolidating and expanding relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Arab countries.

W. BERLIN JOURNALIST INTERVIEWS TUDEH PARTY SPOKESMAN

AU211822 East Berlin HORIZONT in German Issue No 7/1980 p 10 AU

["Iran: MARDOM--Spokesman of the Tudeh Party"]

[Text] West Berlin journalist Bettina Wessels recently had an opportunity to hold the following conversation in Tehran with Manuchehr Behzadi, member of the Tudeh Party Central Committee and responsible editor of the party organ MARDOM.

Under Manuchehr Behzadi's leadership MARDOM is being published as a daily, after having been published three times a week shortly after the revolution of 10 February 1979; it was able to boost its circulation to half a million copies in July and was compelled in late August, together with many other newspapers, to cease publishing for several weeks. MARDOM has been regularly published since 2 October.

What role, I asked my interlocutor, is the newspaper playing for the party at the current stage of the Iranian Revolution? MARDOM is the main mouthpiece of the party in the present situation and cannot be separated from the party at all, M. Behzadi replied. He referred to the interaction between the party and its paper: "Just as we are successful in founding party cells in the cities and villages, so also we are spreading the circulation of MARDOM. As the great interest in our paper shows, we are successful in correctly explaining the party's policy and in rendering effective assistance to the comrades in winning over new people for the party."

The Tudeh Party regards it as one of the greatest successes, M. Behzadi points out, that the policy upheld by the Tudeh Party as compared to that of others who call themselves "communists" has become clear to many strata of the population and to the revolutionary leadership. "In our political and propaganda work we consistently sided with the revolutionary forces--this is one of the reasons today for MARDOM's influence, which lately has been speedily increasing."

Active Role in Political Life

My interlocutor replied to the question as to what the Tudeh Party ascribes the considerable attention being devoted to its newspaper: "Naturally each word that we print is being carefully weighed. This goes even up to registering each misprint." the responsible editor notes with a smile. "But we are being taken seriously. It has been found out that we do take things seriously, that we do not lie and we argue with our adversaries frankly and relentlessly. This is what our readers appreciate. We know this from the response in the readers' letters that express the demands of the working people, of the peasants and workers, and in which naturally various quarters of the population reaffirm our policy."

In addition many poems are received every day--the Iranians learn at an early age to handle verses--and poets also should have a say as often as possible.

The newspaper is primarily addressed to the Iranian working people. This is why it contains--aside from the news, analyses and party communiques and commentaries on topical events--two special columns for the workers and peasants. This is where news from the entire country is compiled which concerns the life and work of the working masses, where attention is focused on difficulties and shortcomings. In addition, since its conversion into a daily the newspaper also has been able to enhance its influence. MARDOM is well known for its prompt reaction.

"From the very beginning it has been one of our objectives as the 'party's arm' to actively intervene in political events. We do criticize the policy of the revolutionary leadership; we submit constructive proposals. It may be said today that the party also is being recognized and acknowledged through its paper."

Oriented Toward the Working People.

To The question as to how the Tudeh Party succeeds in publishing MARDOM daily, M. Behzadi replies: "The publication as a daily is only possible because of the dedicated work of all the involved comrades--from the editor down to the delivery personnel." As a responsible editor, M. Behzadi desires the all-round development of the paper: "First and foremeost we must succeed in printing more news that does not appear in other newspapers; hence primarily from the working peoples' life."

Naturally forces with hostile intentions create difficulties in the path of the party and its organ. Archreactionaries, ultrarightists and former SAVAK agents have tried to prevent the dissemination of MARDOM. The Maoists, who are divided into numerous little groups, also must be added to these counterrevolutionaries.

Another one of my questions is aimed at the response of the revolutionary leadership to the Tudeh Party and its central organ--after all, the newspaper was banned for 6 weeks. The "ban," M. Behzadi stated, "was imposed at the time of a domestic policy shift to the right which certain forces also attempted to use against use. But we did not omit ourselves to be discouraged. We stuck to our line of supporting Imam Khomeyni and in this spirit endorsed a peaceful soultion for the crisis in Kordestan. This was very courageous at that time and was proof of the consistency and calmness which the parth preserved in that dangerous situation."

The reappearance of MARDOM on 2 October 1979 was a great victory. The resumption of editorial work precisely on the 30th anniversary of the Tudeh Party was a particular pleasure, my interlocutor explains. "That day on which MARDOM not only reappeared but also came out as a daily will remain unforgettable for me," says M. Behzad.

Today MARDOM is the fourth biggest daily, next to the newspapers BAMDAD, KEYHAN and ERREIA'AT. After less than one year it today is the biggest and most influential of the party papers after 30 years of underground activity and a short period of operation in public.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER EXPIAINS ARMED FORCES PURGES

ID212002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Interview with Deputy Defense Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed'Ali Khamene'i conducted by unidentified correspondent on 21 February--recorded]

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed'Ali Khamene'i, the supervisor of the Guards Corps and the representative of the Revolution Council in the Ministry of National Defense, in an interview with our colleague today gave some information concerning the methods of purging the army and also reorganizing the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We draw your attention to this interview: [begin recording]

[Question] Your Eminence, Ayatollah Khamene'i. Three days ago the laader of our revolution, Imam Khomeyni, in a decree entrusted the position of supreme commander of the Armed Forces to Dr Bani-Sadr, the president. As deputy minister of national defense, what information can you put at our disposal in connection with this decision and its details?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The issue, as you know, was that the imam was also the supreme commander of the armed forces. Being the supreme commander of the Armed Forces necessitates close contact with the forces. On the day last week when we were received by the imam I and a number of our brothers were in the presence of the imam. He discussed numerous issues concerning the future and mentioned the number of individuals who should be appointed by the imam and the leader. He ordered me and Mr Hashemi to form a group composed of three or five members, including Mr Hashemi and myself, and that this group should represent the imam in the Armed Forces. Bearing in mind that the issue is very sensitive and that during the present situation in Iran we need to centralize the forces and that the duality or polarity witnessed during the past year should not exist in the present situation, we asked him to allow us to investigate the matter further and to submit our views to him for his final decision. He gave us permission to think about this matter. During two subsequent meetings and for many hours we carefully discussed the matter in the presence of other brothers such as Dr Beheshti, Dr Bahonar, Mr Musavi Ardebili and Mr Haj Ahmad Aqa Khomeyni and we came to the conclusion that as military affairs cannot be separated from political affairs in our present situation and as this requires completely unified decisionmaking it is better that this responsibility should be entrusted to the president, so that the same person who is responsible for executive matters will also be responsible for military affairs so that there will be complete harmony between military and political forces. We expressed our views to the imam. We expressed our views to Ahmad Aqa who conveyed them to the imam [as heard]. We told him that in our view Mr Bani-Sadr should represent the imam in the command of the Armed Forces. The imam accepted our view and, fortunately, this was announced. In our view, this is the best decision under the present circumstances and during the present phase of the struggle of our revolution for the administration of the Armed Forces.

[Question] In view of the fact that, as President Bani-Sadr said, our Armed Forces should be at the service of the people, the reorganization of the Armed Forces is necessary. What steps have you taken in this respect as deputy minister of defense?

[Answer] From the first days that I came to the Ministry of Defense this matter has received my attention. We asked for the assistance of various special groups so that they could meet and draft a plan for the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic. As we have repeatedly mentioned, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic are by nature quite different from the monarchical and dictatorial armed forces. They are basically two different entities and have two different philosophies. We asked certain military and civilian brothers to study the various projects which different people proposed so that, by bearing in mind the four principles which I shall enumerate, they could draw up the new plan for the Islamic Armed Forces.

The first principle is to define the philosophy of the existence of Armed Forces in Islam.

The second principle is to decide the form of the Armed Forces from an Islamic viewpoint and to specify the true nature of the Armed Forces.

The third point is to ascertain the faults and defects of the former armed forces. The faults and defects should be clearly defined.

The fourth point is, by bearing in mind this philosophy and this form and by noting the faults which existed in the former armed forces, to decide what should be the form and organization of the future armed forces, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic.

It was decided that we should proceed on the basis of these four principles and that the views and plans of those who expressed their views should be taken into consideration. This matter has been pursued. Now we have a certain project which we shall present to Mr Bani-Sadr for his final decision. Of course, similar work is being carried out by the combined chiefs of staff, although not in the same depth. We are also acquainted with that work. We have done our work in the Ministry of Defense and the other work is being done in the Combined Staff. Some of our brothers who participated in drafting this project are also participating in the project by the Combined Staff. We hope that soon we shall be able to present a comprehensive plan and that Dr Bani-Sadr will be able to reorganize the Armed Forces in an Islamic form within a suitable time.

[Question] The purges carried out recently in the Armed Forces have been criticized by some personnel of the Armed Forces. Mr Bani-Sadr, in his first message to the personnel of the Armed Forces in his capacity as the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, said that the Armed Forces are in need of purging, but that the purges should be equitable and should not be based on animosity or favoritism or any kind of bias. What are the intentions of the Ministry of Defense in this respect and what action are you taking?

[Answer] On the issue of purges, the Ministry of Defense follows general government regulations. The Ministry of Defense does not have separate regulations. The same regulations which were approved by the government and by the Revolution Council and which were sent to all the ministries were also given to the Ministry of Defense The minister of defense in collaboration with the Revolution Council formed a 5-member committee based on the same regulations to investigate this matter. The plan concerning the purges came about after certain groups were formed to investigate and report their findings concerning the military and civilian personnel of the Ministry of Defense, the Armed Forces and the organizations affiliated with the Ministry of Defense. They started their work and submitted their reports to a commission which was set up at the Ministry of Defense. These reports were studied and then views were expressed concerning the dismissal, severance pay or retirement of personnel. The orders were given to various units and were carried out. Of course, there are some complaints concerning this matter, the reason being that the purges in the Ministry of Defense and the Armed Forces were much more extensive than in all other government departments. So far we can provide a list of some 6,000 persons who have been dismissed by this commission from the Armed Forces or from the organizations affiliated to the Ministry of Defense. It is very natural that among these 6,000 persons there are 100, 200 or 600 people who have been wrongly evaluated. This is not surprising. It is quite possible that certain people have been wrongly dismissed. For this reason we formed another commission, the purge review commission. This commission has recently started its work and will gradually carry out its task, God willing. Of course, purges will still continue, but we will try in future to insure that the purges proceed in a more gradual and deeper way so that there are fewer possibilities of error. [end recording]

21 FEBRUARY REVOLUTION COUNCIL SESSION REPORTED

LD220536 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The Revolution Council met last night. At the end of the session Dr Hasan Habibi, the spokesman for the Revolution Council, reviewed the issues discussed during the council session to reporters. He said:

At this session, Mr Gharavi submitted a report on the situation in Eastern Azarbayjan. Discussions were made and it was agreed that development activities in Azarbayjan should be accelerated and expanded. He added: The management of the radio and television was also discussed at the session. It was agreed that the final decision would be made during Sunday's session.

Concerning the attack on the daily BAMDAD, the spokesman for the Revolution Council said that the matter was discussed and it was agreed that decisions should be made regarding this matter in connection with the responsible national security officials.

He added: During the session Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the minister of foreign affairs, submitted a report on his trips to Greece, Italy and France. He reported that his trip to Greece was unofficial; that the Greeks were in favor of the revolution, that the issues that exist between Iran and Italy--the commercial issues and the contracts between Iran and Italy that are suspended at present--were discussed; and that similar talks were held in France. The relevant reports were submitted by the minister of foreign affairs to the Revolution Council.

MO'INFAR DISCUSSES BAGHDAD OPEC CONFERENCE

LD211613 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 18 Feb 80 p 10 LD

[Unattributed report: "Oil Minister: 'International Imperialism Takes Advantage of the Ignorance of Certain OPEC Countires'"]

[Text] In a discussion [time, place not given] Iran's Oil Minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar stated:

"A conference of OPEC oil ministers will be held on 2 Esfand [21 February] to prepare a long-term plan. The oil ministers of Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Venezuela and Algeria have been invited to this conference, and after the long-term plan has been prepared it is to be submitted to the annual OPEC conference, which will be held in September in Baghdad.

Mo'infar said: "Because participation in such a conference would involve time-wasting, I shall not be attending the conference in my capacity as Iran's oil minister, and it may well be that Algeria's oil minister will not attend in person either. However, Iranian oil experts, who are carrying through our oil policy--which must be included in the long-term plan--will attend."

In reply to the question: "What will Iran's position be as regards future oil conferences", Mo'infar said:

"Iran's position at these OPEC conferences is perfectly clear; we explained our position at the recent Dhahran conference. In circumstances when OPEC countries lack the ability to draw up a short-term plan, one aspect of which is the control of production levels, how can they talk about long-term plans? Thus, to hold conferences of this types serves to encourage international imperialism, which plunders the oil resources of the oil-producing countries by distracting their attention. In short, the whole thing arises from ignorance on the part of certain OPEC countries."

INTERIOR MINISTER CITES LAW ON PUBLIC MEETINGS

LD211752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

["Notice" issued 21 February by the Interior Ministry--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This is to inform all compatriots that, in view of Article 27 of the constitution which says that "holding assemblies and marches without the beating of arms is authorized, providing they do not violate Islamic standards," it is the Interior Ministry which is the guarantor of freedom of assembly, and it is also obliged to supervise them to insure that they do not violate Islamic standards.

Consequently, all groups, political organizations and parties wishing to hold public rallies are invited to apply to the Interior Ministry, governors general offices and governors' offices at least 48 hours before holding such assemblies in order to obtain authorization. If these regulations are observed there will be no obstacles to holding such assemblies or rallies. Meanwhile, security forces are required to maintain freedom and to protect the participants as well as to prevent any clashes. Should the group holding a rally overstep legal limits it would then be up to the Interior Ministry to investigate the matter. As for various gatherings, even if some groups are certain that Islamic principles have been violated they are not allowed to become involved or exert pressure or create anarchy, thus giving a pretext to the counterrevolutionaries. They are required, therefore, to report the matter to officials of the Interior Ministry.

The gathering this afternoon at Tehran University was held upon the advice and authorization of the Interior Ministry. Sadly, it encountered provocations and pressures which resulted in clashes and fighting. These incidents, being encroachments on social liberties and disregard for the responsibilities of the Interior Ministry in safeguarding order and security, are condemned.

In view of the fact that we are on the eve of elections to the Islamic Republic Majles and that observance of rights and legal freedoms has special significance, while calling upon all classes of people to cooperate with officials so as to expand these freedoms we warn all groups, organizations and political parties that should they resort to any provocation, use of force or action culminating in the paralysis of the government's executive organs, or if they insult individuals and deny fundamental freedoms, those responsible will be prosecuted.

BANI-SADR INTERVIEWED ON FLOOD RELIEF, ARMY REORGANIZATION

ID191800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Feb 80 LD

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent today Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, our country's president, answered questions on the causes of the Khuzestan floods and how further damage resulting from the floods could be avoided. We now draw your attention to this interview: [begin recording with unidentified correspondent]

[Question] You visited the flood-affected areas of Khuzestan yesterday. Could you tell us whether, apart from the rainfall, there have been other factors and causes which could have been predicted and prevented?

[Answer] Of course. There have been other factors and preventive measures could have been taken. I myself said in Ahvaz that someone once told the agent of death: When you decide to come for me I would like you to warn me 1 week in advance. So one night the angel of death came and said: I have come to take your life. The person said: But it was our arrangement that you would warn me 1 week ahead. The angel said: I did. The other person said: When did you do that? The angel said: I took the life of your neighbor to the right, then I took the life of your neighbor to the left, and so I went on taking the lives of people around you. Well, these were all warnings.

So, to go back to the point: They should have erected flood dikes; they should have planted trees. There have been projects drawn up along these lines which could have been implemented without too much expense. But they have not done anything. There have been floods every year, and every few years there have been colossal floods. When you have a flood-prone region you have to take precautionary measures. Now it has happened. And we have no tents; we have insufficient drugs and medical facilities; we have no fodder; we have no foodstuffs. Should you not always have stocks of these things in a country which is susceptible to earthquakes and floods?

As I have said already, in the first days they did not take the matter seriously enough and did not act appropriately--with relief work--that is. When they went into action--well, you have seen for yourselves from the air, and you know everywhere is under water. So, with floods of this kind one cannot claim a casualty figure of 16 people. Usually this figure is much higher. But since everyone cooperated, the army and the people and the reconstruction crusade and others, the casualty figures have been minimized considerably. But if they had taken precautionary measures the losses would have even lower.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] They should go and investigate the situation. Then we shall all go back to Khuzestan again on 5 April and proceed to implement the projects suggested. God willing, we shall lay a new foundation in Khuzestan for the future.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer indistinct]

[Question] There is no single organization to carry out relief measures immediately [Bani-Sadr interrupts]

[Answer] When I went to the Foundation for the Poor today, where revolution functionaries were gathered, we discussed this very point, namely that relief operation is not something we can carry out in a random fashion. Right now there are several organizations, each of which going its own way. It was decided that these organizations should get together and draw up a plan at once so that the relief operation could be brought under one authority. The government should also earmark appropriate funds to help. In addition to taking precautionary measures against things such as earthquakes, we should also always have adequate stocks of things such as food, drugs and so forth. We hope all this will be achieved quickly.

[Question] Imam Khomeyni today appointed you commander in chief. Could you say what your first action will be in this context? You also had a meeting with the representatives [words indistinct] at Tehran University. Could you say also something about this?

[Answer] A good army needs morale, training, good command and high level of efficiency. All this must be achieved before one can have effectiveness and an independent army. Thus, our first step in the army will be (?to bring about) things they do not have. (?In order to achieve this) we must proceed with reorganizing the army. [end recording]

Seizure of Medical Supplies

JN191423 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 19 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Tehran, 19 February--The Khomeyni guards have attacked and seized medical supplies that were being taken from Khorramabad to Ahvaz for the relief of Arab citizens who were injured because of the ugly crime committed by Khomeyni's regime, the opening of the (?Dez) dam.

A people's mojahedin spokesman reported that the Muslim students organization center in Ahvaz witnessed several attacks during the past 3 days, in an attempt by Khomeyni's regime to stop medical supplies intended to save Arab citizens from reaching Ahvaz. He said that other Khomeyni guard elements attacked the relief center in Ahvaz and clashed with a group that was guarding the center. Several injuries resulted.

The spokesman asked for the release of two people, one of whom is a doctor who helped in the operation of relief for the ugly crime committed in Ahvaz.

UNEMPLOYED GRADUATES OCCUPY GOVERNORATE BUILDING

JN211241 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1152 GMT 21 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 February--Large numbers of unemployed graduates in Arabistan [Khuzestan] occupied the governorate building yesterday, demanding jobs. The newspaper BAMDAD says today that the unemployed graduates demanded that the governor general, Mohammad Gharavi, respond to their demands immediately.

SARI ISLAMIC COURT THREATENS TRIALS IN ABSENTIA

GF181620 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 18 Feb 80 GF

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Court of Sari has warned retired Brig Gen Amir Abbas Khatebi, the former chief of Mazandaran police headquarters and a member of the so-called Provincial Reconstruction Committee, Brig Gen Zarrinfar, the former commander of the Mazandaran gendarmerie and a member of the Provincial Reconstruction Committee, and 'Ali Rakhsha, former chief of the disbanded SAVAK and a leading member of the Provincial Reconstruction Committee, that within 10 days of the announcement of this notice they should report to the Islamic Revolution Court of Sari on Farhang Street. Otherwise, they will be tried in absentia and an appropriate judgment issued. Meanwhile, if anybody has a complaint or wishes to testify against the, he can report to the court with the necessary documents within the above-mentioned time.

FLOODS HIT KOHKILUYEH VA BOYER AHMAD PROVINCE

LD201158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Feb 80 LD

[Text] As a result of continuous rain and floods in the Province of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad, substantial losses have been sustained by the local people.

A PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Yasuj has reported that because telephone communications between Yasuj and Deh Dasht have been cut off the governor of Kohkiluyeh has sent a letter appealing to all humanitarian people to help the local people with relief operations. The governor says in his letter that the majority of village houses have been destroyed in the region and four people have lost their lives in floods. He has also appealed to the roads and transport department and all those who own heavy machinery to take action to reopen rural roads in the area as soon as possible.

CLASHES BETWEEN MOJAHEDIN OCCUR IN SEVEN CITIES

LD212104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Clashes between opposing groups occurred today following rallies and marches in Tehran, Shiraz, Sari, Tabriz, Bushehr, Urumiyeh and Ardabil. According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, most of these clashes stemmed from protests by speakers and supporters of mojahedin against the Majles elections which are to be held in two stages. Sadly, the clashes left a number of injured.

BURUJERD GOVERNOR COMMENTS ON DISTURBANCES IN CITY

ID151153 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Feb 80 p 3 ID

[Unattributed report: "The Role of SAVAKists and Feudalists in the Bloody Events of Burujerd"]

[Text] Khorramabad--Explaining the reasons behind last Friday's unrest in the city which resulted in one person being martyred and several wounded, Governor Gholami of the provincial city of Burujerd commented to the PARS NEWS AGENCY as follows:

"Unfortunately, a number of individuals gathered at the Taleqani Hall in the city without the permission of either the prosecutor's office or the provincial authorities. In addition, about eight minibuses arrived from the towns of Khorramabad, Kermanshah, Droud and elsewhere, their occupants bent on generating a state of agitation and insecurity.

"The perpetrators of this regretful incident, who are sworn SAVAKists, a number of feudalists and capitalists have been identified and 15 of them have been arrested.

"Those arrested included one former policeman, agents of the defunct SAVAK and one person in [Revolution] Guard attire."

The governor strongly denied that guards had intervened in the Burujerd incident, and he conveyed condolences to the family of Jannati, last Friday's martyr.

Khorramshahr Bomb Explosion

ID211746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Feb 80 ID

[Text] According to a report by the central news bureau, a bomb exploded at 1540 today at the headquarters for the relief of flood victims which is situated in the premises of the Red Lion and Sun of Khorramshahr. Unfortunately, as the result of this explosion 5 persons were martyred and 39 persons were injured. According to our correspondent the explosion took place at a time when a large number of the people of Khorramshahr had gathered in this place to listen to a speech by Miss A'zam Taleqani which was planned for 1600. The governor of Khorramshahr, in an interview with our correspondent, estimated the amount of the material used for the explosion as eight pounds of TNT paste. He said: The persons involved in this incident are known to the judicial authorities. They will be arrested after complete identification and will be punished.

KHOMEYNI'S OFFICE WARNS TABRIZ PEOPLE ON CELEBRATIONS

ID171302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Feb 80 ID

[Statement issued 16 February by Imam Khomeyni's office--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On 18 February we celebrate the anniversary of the blood-drenched uprising of the brave people of Tabriz, an uprising which delivered a firm blow to the cruel Pahlavi regime and which was provided fresh blood for the youthful revolution of the Iranian nation.

The 40th day of the uprising excited Tabriz in such a manner that the brave youths and the fighting people of this hero-nurturing city placed themselves unarmed in front of the machine guns.

While honoring this great day, Imam Khomeyni's office warns the people of Tabriz to keep control of the ceremonies for the glorification of this historic day, with the utmost intelligence and alertness, so that any form of counterrevolutionary conspiracy can be prevented.

[Signed] Qom, Imam Khomeyni's office.

More Warnings

GF211545 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azerbaijani 1430 GMT 21 Feb 80 GF

[Text] The Friday prayers headquarters in the city of Tabriz has called on all follow[illegible] of the imam to participate tomorrow at the Friday prayer gathering in railroad s[illegible]re, led by Ayatollah Madani, Imam Khomeyni's representative. In another communique, the Friday prayers headquarters has warned all armed groups in Tabriz that persons without special weapon permits who attend this prayer meeting will have their weapons confiscated.

Tabriz Islamic Court Sentences

GF211549 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azerbaijani 1430 GMT 21 Feb 80 GF

[Excerpt] The Islamic Revolution Court in Tabriz has completed its investigation of 60 individuals arrested and charged with creating disorder and causing unrest in the city. Forty-five have been freed on bond and the remaining 15 persons have been found guilty and sentenced to various prison terms.

Parliamentary Election Protest March

GF211556 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azerbaijani 1430 GMT 21 Feb 80 GF

[Text] We have just received a report from the city of Ahar that supporters of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization in that city have staged a march through the streets protesting the upcoming parliamentary election being held in two stages. The marchers shouted slogans that holding the election in two stages would be unconstitutional. At the end of their march, members of the group gathered and read a resolution.

BANDAR-E BUSHEHR CITIZENS COMPLAIN OF FOOD SHORTAGES

LD201818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A group of citizmes of Bandar-e Bushehr have sent a letter to the Commerce Ministry calling for a greater allocation of foodstuffs to that port. According to a PARS AGENCY dispatch the letter reads in part: Some foodstuffs are unobtainable or extremely expensive in Bandar-e Bushehr and the people of the province have no access to such foodstuffs as milk, eggs and poultry.

Protest at Prison

JN201643 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Tehran, 20 February--'Ali Akbar Borhan, chief tribunal of the city of Bushehr, staged a sit-in in the city's prison in protest against the government guards' interference in court issues and refusal to implement court orders.

The newspaper KEYHAN says today that Borhan entered the prison last night and announced his disobedience. Today, the members of the investigation committees, court and prosecution announced their solidarity with him.

SHIRAZ OIL REFINERY OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY

LD201216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The head of the Shiraz oil refinery has stated in an interview with our correspondent that during the period in which the supply of gas to Shiraz stopped, the Shiraz oil refinery was deprived of crude oil deliveries from southern region.

Engineer Esma'ili, head of the Shiraz oil refinery, explained that because the pumping stations feeding the Shiraz refinery with crude oil from Khuzestan were operating with gas and since the gas supply to the stations had been halted as a result of floods in the region, the Shiraz oil refinery had been using its own stocks of crude oil in this period and had continued oil-refining processes at half capacity.

He added that with the resumption of the supply of gas and the reactivation of the pumping stations, the crude oil deliveries to the Shiraz refinery had been resumed and the refinery was now operating at full capacity--between 35,000 and 45,000 barrels per day, and was producing oil products, including liquefied gas, jet fuel, kerosene, gas oil, fuel oil and various grades of petrol.

According to our correspondent, certain sections of the Shiraz petrochemical complex that had halted operations owing to the lack of gas supplies have now resumed operations.

REVOLUTION GUARDS DISCOVER SECRET TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

LD201737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Feb 80 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, thanks to the perseverance and efforts of the Corps of the Islamic Revolution Guards in Kerman and Sirjan a secret telecommunication system, equipped with radio equipment, masts and a high tower, has been uncovered in the garden formerly belonging to Mozaffar Jandaqi, a deputy in the defunct National Consultative Assembly. In connection with the discovery of this system, Engineer Bahrsini, the deputy head of the Foundation for the Meek in Kerman, [Bonyad-e Mostaz'afan-e Kerman] has been arrested.

The Corps of the Islamic Revolution Guards in Kerman is busy identifying other members of this system. [as heard]

It is necessary to point out that at the outset of the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran the property of Mozaffar Jandaqi, deputy to the Defunct National Consultative Assembly, at Ebrahimabad and Arezu'iyeh in Sirjan was confiscated for the benefit of the Foundation for the Meek.

MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ LEADER'S MEETING WITH 'ARAFAT REPORTED

LD211151 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Feb 80 p 12 LD

[Unattributed report: "Mas'ud Rajavi Meeting With 'Arafat"]

[Text] Mas'ud Rajavi, member of the leadership cadre of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Iran organization, had a meeting last night with chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat. At this meeting, which was held at 'Arafat's residence and which lasted 2 hours, there was discussion of revolutionary matters. 'Arafat also renewed in strong terms his previous invitation for Mas'ud Rajavi to visit Lebanon.

TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE INCREASES ARABIC BROADCASTS

[Broadcast Note FCS/WA] On 21 February, Tehran's International Service in Arabic program announced: "We draw the attention of our brother listeners to the fact that our morning transmission has been extended by 2 hours. It now begins at 0900 and ends at 1400 (0530-1030 GMT)." This additional programming will increase Tehran radio's Arabic-language output from 6 hours to 8 hours daily. Tehran International Service last increased its Arabic-language programming on 22 June 1979 when it added a 3-hour morning broadcast to its regular 3-hour evening transmission.

NVOI QUESTIONS SINCERITY OF U.S. PROMISES ON HOSTAGES

TA152030 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 Feb 80 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "The United States' Reaction Toward the Legitimate Demands of the Iranian Nation"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The problem of the American hostages has been transformed into an acute topic of discussion in our country's and the foreign countries' mass media. In other words, it has become the hot topic of the day, as a result of the statements by Mr Bani-Sadr, our country's president, and also U.S. President Carter's remarks during his recent press conference. In his recent interviews with LE MONDE and France's television, Mr Bani-Sadr discussed the problem of the American hostages. As far as the individuals close to the Islamic Revolution Council, and even a number of the members of this council have observed, all are of the opinion that the problems of the hostages should finally [words indistinct] on a correct basis. In other words it seems that the Islamic Revolution Council, on the whole, is not opposed to a solution of this problem. The problem is that, up to now, there is no unanimity of opinion regarding the solution of this issue among the members of the council.

Mr Bani-Sadr, our country's president, who during his recent interviews recounted the conditions for the release of the hostages, stressed that the final solution to the problem of the hostages, on the basis of the conditions which he presented, is subject to the imam's approval. The conditions which Mr Bani-Sadr (?presented), with respect to the release of the American hostages, are: First, the U.S. should acknowledge that it was a partner in the implementation of the oppressive policies of the deposed shah. Second, the U.S. should confirm Iran's right in taking adequate measures to extradite the shah in order to make him stand trial, and also to have his plundered property returned to the Iranian nation. And third, it should let Iran be free and not interfere in its internal affairs.

The demand of the Iranian nation in connection with the extradition of the deposed shah, his trial, and the return of his plundered property is a demand which is on the current agenda of the struggle of our homeland's people. The securing of these legitimate and just demands is without doubt dependent on the consistent struggles of the Iranian nation, and the decisiveness of the revolutionary foundations in implementing the imam's guidelines, and not on promises, or occasionally the confessions of the Americans. Because the promises and confessions of American officials, who are the executioners of the pillaging policy of the plundering monopolies of that country, neither have credibility nor are they worth a penny.

This world-devouring U.S. imperialism which for scores of years supported the filthiest and the most bloodthirsty regimes, such as the regime of Mohammad Reza, and at the same time has bragged about human rights and its defense, can not be held to its promises and confessions.

The foreign policy of U.S. imperialism is based on the barrel of the cannon and [words indistinct] and military coup d'etats, and not on respect for agreements and promises and international treaties. Not only our nation, but all the awakened nations have experienced this fact in their lives and struggles.

Without doubt, in connection with world-devouring U.S. imperialism [words indistinct] and that allegedly one can believe the promises, agreements and confessions of U.S. officials. In an accord, or in an agreement and treaty, both sides of the agreement must have honor. Who can guarantee that should the U.S. confess to interfering in Iran's affairs in the past, it would not do the same in the future, or will disregard this confession after a while? U.S. imperialism must be forced not to interfere in our homeland's internal affairs, and this is not possible except through the continuation of the consistent struggle of the Iranian people against world-devouring U.S. imperialism, and the decisiveness of the revolutionary foundations in revealing the nature, plunderings, law-breakings and crimes of this imperialism. This is an undeniable historical fact that cannot be overlooked.

However, let us see what kind of reaction official U.S. sources displayed toward the demands of our country's official sources. While acknowledging, in his recent interview, the implementation of an aggressive conspiracy by the United States against Iran's oil interests and the countries of the Persian Gulf region, Mr Carter openly said: The United States will use all its potentials to achieve this aim. In response to a question of the correspondents regarding his view concerning the American coup d'etat of 1953 against the legitimate government of Mossadeq and the installation once more of Mohammad Reza, the fugitive shah, despite the will of the Iranian nation, Carter shamelessly and haughtily said: This has to do with the very distant past and I believe that discussion regarding the correctness of an act which took place 30 years ago is not appropriate.

It is obvious from this remark of Carter's what his attitude and that of his associates is toward the demands of the Iranian nation in connection with the crimes and plunderings of the deposed shah, and also the demand of the Iranian nation with respect to putting on trial this criminal of the time, and the participation of the Americans in his crime. U.S. imperialism is so impudent that it will not even submit to the verdict of international courts, or confess to its shameless interference in our homeland's affairs.

Without a doubt, the problem of the hostages should be resolved on the basis of our homeland's national interests, on the basis of the imam's guidelines, and the preservation of the credibility and the international prestige of our Islamic Republic. However, it should not be forgotten even for one moment that at present this problem has come out of the framework of an event which solely has a diplomatic aspect, and beyond it can be seen the resolute and irreconcilable course of the true followers of the imam, with its various forms, against bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism. This correct and resolute course, and its true followers, should be preserved from any kind of harm and molestation, in whatever form and name.

NVOI DISCUSSES CIA AS 'TOOL OF IMPERIALISM'

GF161855 [Editorial Report GF] (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 16 February broadcast the following commentary entitled: "The CIA Is a Tool in the Hands of U.S. Imperialism." It says:

We all know that the duty of the CIA is sabotage throughout the world. It is clear that the popular unity government of Chile was toppled by the CIA and the legal president of that country was killed.

Carter, in 1978, struggled to limit the CIA's sabotage activities in other countries. The reason for this White House action was the exposures of CIA agents in other countries under the cover of diplomatic staff. After the victory of the revolutions in Iran and Afghanistan, the activities of the CIA in the Middle East have increased greatly. The cooperation between the CIA and SAVAK was so strong that the CIA, through SAVAK, used to report to Carter that the shah's position was more stable than before the revolution began. The demonstration of the people in the streets was no more than a rebel group, it maintained.

NVOI COMMENTS ON SHAH'S REGIME, AFGHANISTAN

GF171903 [Editorial Report GF] (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 17 February broadcast two commentaries. The first, entitled "The Shah's Regime and U.S. Imperialism," says: For the past 50 years the corrupt regime of Pahlavi was the barrier before the path of progress in our country. With an all-round support from British colonialism and U.S. imperialism, the brutal regime shed the blood of thousands of struggling men and women of Iran because of their struggle to gain and safeguard the country's freedom and independence and because of their so-called crime of defending their rights and liberties. During all these struggles, both the British and American imperialists were the supporters and proponents of the treacherous and criminal father and his son. In exchange for all these crimes and abuses, the answer from Iran's liberated nation could not have been anything else but a revolution. It is an undeniable fact that there was never any aggression on the part of Iranian nation aimed at the United States; rather it was U.S. imperialism which, through its orchestration of the 19 August 1953 coup d'etat, imposed once again the traitorous and escaped shah upon the Iranian nation. U.S. imperialism and jaded British colonialism spent millions to reimpose their plundering domination. They shed the blood of thousands of Iranian strugglers, thus causing the legal government of Dr Mohammad Mossadeq to collapse. After the reestablishment of the Pahlavi regime, the executioner shah was nothing but a tool in the hands of bloodthirsty America. Thus the nation arose and toppled the regime and brought the domination of U.S. masters to an end. The liberated people of Iran will solidify and strengthen the roots of their revolution by uprooting all remaining influence and meddling of imperialism by following the imam's policy.

The second commentary, entitled "Afghanistan's Counterrevolutionary Fighters," says: Those in Afghanistan, under the name of defending Islam but in reality through the aid and help of U.S. imperialism are creating unrest and opposing the legal government of Babrak Karmal are receiving their instructions from the Pentagon. President Bani-Sadr, in reply to the question of a French reporter as to whether Iran would provide assistance to Afghan fighters, said no. This comment and statement by Bani-Sadr is proof of a reality [words indistinct] Yasir 'Arafat stated that those who are supposedly defending Islam in Afghanistan are in reality the enemies of Islamic revolution.

NVOI DISCUSSES TABRIZ INSURRECTION, U.S. OIL POLICY

TA191018 [Editorial Report TA] (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 18 February broadcast two commentaries. The first, entitled "The Anniversary of the Epic Insurrection of the Heroic People of Tabriz," says: The 29th of Bahman [Persian month] is the second anniversary of the revolt by the noble and heroic people of Tabriz against the former regime. The imam has called it the beginning of the revolutionary government of the Iranian people.

Two years ago the courageous people of Tabriz demonstrated for the overthrow of the shah and the restoration of democracy, freedom and political rights for the Iranian nation. When police forces turned to be inadequate, the shah, under American orders, sent his tanks and air force against the courageous people of Tabriz, and more than 3000 of them were martyred. Not discouraged by the atrocities of the shah's army, the heroic people of Tabriz turned their struggle into an inspiration for the entire Iranian nation, rightly fighting against the shah and his imperialist supporters. Their struggle made SAVAK and the army lose control over the situation in that city. Their victory lit the flame for the continuous struggle of the entire Iranian nation, bringing the collapse of the Pahlavi regime, on the ruins of which arose the Islamic Republic of Iran. Today the entire Iranian nation praises the heroic deeds of the people of Tabriz. The martyrs' blood has not been spilled in vain but has contributed to the final victory of the Iranian Revolution.

The second commentary, entitled "The American Oil Policy Is a Colonial Policy," says: The American oil policy is the principle factor determining Carter's foreign policy, because he fears an oil crisis. The Americans along with their allies, namely Japan, have been confronted with a number of problems in this field, and are trying to solve this problem with a number of internal measures. Being strongly dependent on the OPEC countries, the U.S. Government's military, economic and political pressure on them is not so surprising. There are some reactionary Middle Eastern countries on whom the U.S. is dependent for its oil, and it supports these countries in their struggle against freedom-seeking movements in the region. But neither the moral nor military support of the United States for the ousted shah could keep him in power. The OPEC countries have huge sums of petrodollars of which $70 million is deposited in U.S. banks. These countries fear an American reprisal in case of friction between their governments. The OPEC conference, which will be convened in May, is due to review all aspects of U.S. oil policy in order to impede the U.S. colonial oil policy and to place the oil wealth in the hands of the oil-producing governments.

NVOI COMMENTS ON ANTI-AMERICAN STRUGGLE

TA211810 [Editorial Report TA] (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 21 February broadcast a commentary which says in part: The imam has often said that all our troubles are due to the Americans. By following the imam's path our nation is struggling against U.S. imperialism, Zionism, feudalism and remnants of the former regime. The imam has repeatedly called on the people to preserve unity of word and action in the struggle against U.S. imperialism, our nation's number one enemy. He has also called for the securing of the country's economic independence by breaking all dependence on the United States. Up to now our relations with the United States were those of the plunderer with the plundered and of the oppressor with the oppressed. We must force the United States to stop interfering in our country's internal affairs and not believe any of the promises of its officials in this connection.

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